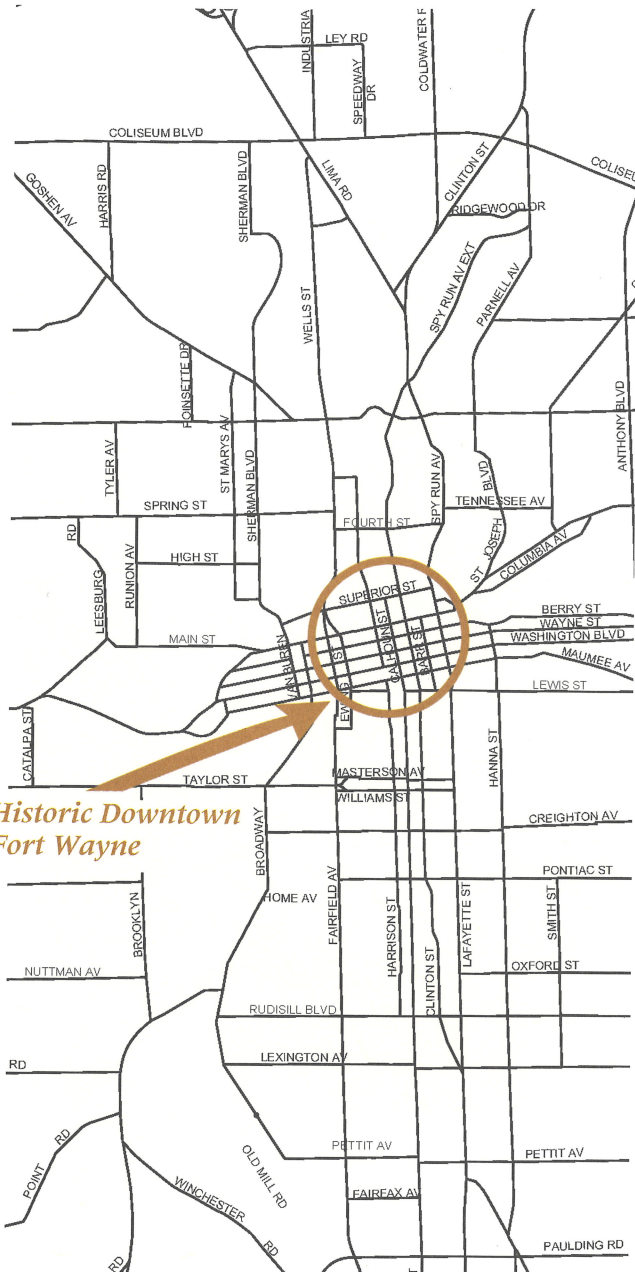


Location



Historic Downtown Fort Wayne

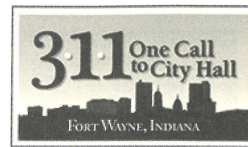
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Tom Henry, Mayor

Community Development
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Pam Holocher, Director

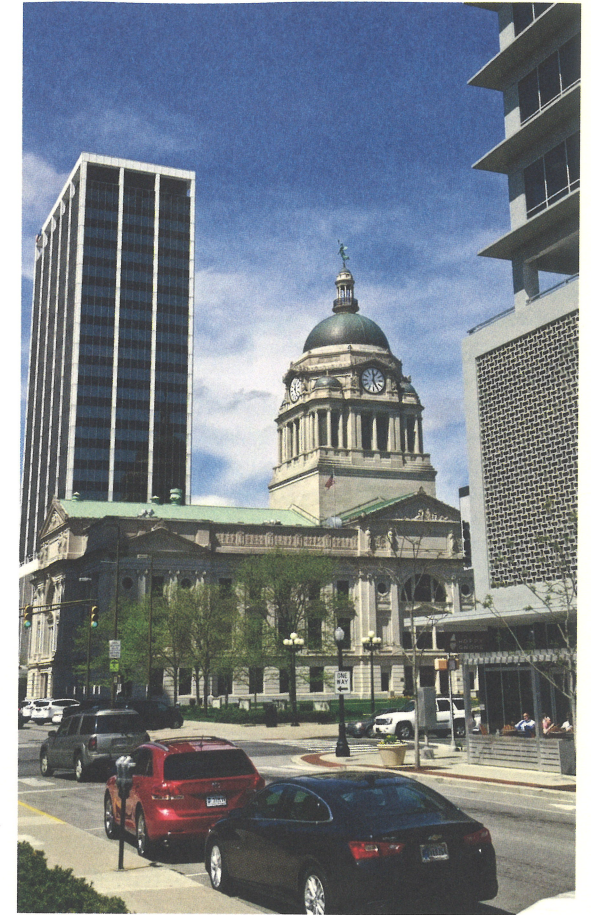
Donald Orban, Preservation Planner
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For more information about historic preservation
in Fort Wayne, call [260] 427-8311 or visit
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Historic Downtown Fort Wayne



Fort Wayne, Indiana

History

The confluence of the St. Joseph, St. Marys, and Maumee rivers was a gathering place and trade center for the Miami, Potawatomi, Wea, and other Native American tribes that inhabited the Great Lakes region. The rivers provided access to the Great Lakes, Michigan, and much of Ohio. In addition, a short, swampy portage (or trail) to the west provided a link to the Little Wabash River which then led travelers to the Ohio and Mississippi Rivers and on to the Gulf of Mexico. The Myaamia (or Miami) tribe controlled this important portage and resided in the village of Kekionga which flourished just northeast of today's downtown. French traders from Canada reached the area in the early eighteenth century and, recognizing the advantages the rivers and portage provided for transporting furs and other goods, began to inhabit the area. The French also established a series of forts, the last of which was briefly occupied by the British from 1761 to 1765.

Between 1765 and 1794 there was an uneasy and informal Native American and British alliance as well as a large population of French traders living among the Myaamia and other tribes. The area was called Kekionga, but Europeans also referred to it as "Miami Town," a French-Indian trading village with a distinct culture and social life.

During his presidency, George Washington saw control of Kekionga and the river portage as critical to expansion into the Northwest Territory and blocking British challenges from the west. Washington's determination to control this strategic location led to a series of campaigns by the U.S. military. The battle of Kekionga, labeled "Harmar's Defeat" by Americans and the "Battle of the Pumpkin Fields" by Native Americans, was the first attempt. The campaign led by General Josiah Harmar occurred in October of 1790. The bloody battle took place on the banks of the Maumee and St. Joseph Rivers near today's downtown and the Lakeside Historic District. The worst defeat of U.S. forces by Native Americans up to that time, it was only surpassed by St. Clair's Defeat in 1791, and the Battle of the Little Bighorn (Custer's Last Stand) in 1876.

After two defeats, Washington appointed General Anthony Wayne to take control of Kekionga. Using Wayne's strategic approach, the Americans won the Battle of Fallen Timbers near present-day Maumee, Ohio, then marched up the Maumee River to build and dedicate the American "Fort Wayne" at Kekionga on October 22, 1794. This fort was located near the corner of today's Berry and Clay streets.

The Indiana Territory was established in 1800, during a period of uneasy peace with the Native American population. The last conflicts in the area with Native Americans and the British were during the War of 1812. Fort Wayne was challenged by a siege, but never fell out of American control. After the war, Fort Wayne continued to play a key role in retaining American control of Kekionga and the Northwest Territory, allowing American settlement to begin in northern Indiana. In 1819, the same year a Federal surveyor explored the portage as a potential canal route, Fort Wayne was abandoned by the U.S. military.

The U.S. Land Office, which sold public lands for which Native American titles had been eliminated by treaties, opened in the buildings of the vacated fort in 1823. The abundant real estate and possibility of a canal at Fort Wayne created new incentives for settlement. John Barr, a merchant from Baltimore,

Maryland, and John McCorkle, of Piqua, Ohio, purchased the first tract of land, which they platted as "the original plat" of Fort Wayne. It is the heart of downtown Fort Wayne today. Two of the plat's north-south streets are named for prominent politicians known for their vocal support of canal funding and construction. DeWitt Clinton of New York was instrumental in construction of the Erie Canal and John C. Calhoun of South Carolina was a proponent of funding a national system of roads and canals. Allen County was also formed in 1823.

By the time of Fort Wayne's incorporation in 1829, prominent settlers with the names of Ewing, Hanna, Suttentfield, Swinney, Comparet, Kercheval, Rockhill, and Hamilton were busy building the future city. Samuel Hanna in particular, lobbied for the canal, and later, the plank roads and railroad to spur community development. Commerce on the rivers was enhanced by ferry crossings and boat lines that operated on the Maumee River between Fort Wayne and Toledo, Ohio.

Construction of the Wabash and Erie Canal in the 1830s and 40s led to rapid growth in population and commerce, giving Fort Wayne a "boom town" character and the nickname "the Summit City," due to its location at the highest elevation on the canal. Columbia Street (The Landing) became the commercial heart of Fort Wayne.

The development of steam power rapidly replaced canals and their uncertain reliance on steady water levels. Ironically, the first railroad locomotive delivered to Fort Wayne arrived by canal boat in 1854. Tracks were laid quickly and the Pittsburgh, Fort Wayne, and Chicago Railroad, later the Pennsylvania Railroad, developed the first line on the south side of town. With the railroad came a rail car manufacturing and repair shop, known as the "Penny Shops," which dominated the local industrial world for the next century and employed up to a thousand workers. Fort Wayne's key location in the great Pennsylvania Railroad is one of the principal reasons for the City's dynamic position in the later 19th century as a center of manufacturing. In 1880, the canal right-of-way was purchased by the Nickel Plate Railroad for railroad use. The elevated tracks, constructed in 1955, continue to trace the canal route through the north edge of downtown.

Between 1860 and 1920, many railroads reached Fort Wayne, making the city a significant stop between Pittsburgh and Chicago. The city's population grew from 26,880 (1880) to 86,549 (1920), making Fort Wayne the second largest city in Indiana. Downtown thrived, expanding into the easternmost portions of the West Central neighborhood. Industries along the rail lines such as the Bass Foundry, Wayne Knitting Mills, and Jenney Electric Company welcomed immigrants pouring into Fort Wayne and generated citywide expansion. The numerous towers and church steeples of all denominations that gave Fort Wayne the nickname "City of Churches" also began to rise during this period. The pride and confidence of the period is best expressed in the Allen County Courthouse, acclaimed among the finest expressions of Beaux Arts architecture and interior decoration found in the United States.

During the 19th century, Fort Wayne was relatively compact, with all social classes preferring to live near downtown, close to merchants, churches, entertainment, and work. Increased population density set the stage for an extensive electric trolley service that allowed easy and affordable access to downtown from virtually any part of the city, and the move to early suburban

neighborhoods such as Lakeside Park and Williams Woodland Park began. As growth, and the use of automobiles, increased, the George Kessler Park & Boulevard Plan of 1911 provided a scenic framework for development of outlying neighborhoods such as Forest Park, Oakdale, Arcadia/Englewood, Lafayette Place, Harrison Hill, Kensington Park, and South Wood Park. In 1913 Fort Wayne became an important city on the Lincoln Highway, the first coast-to-coast transcontinental highway, leading to growth in trucking commerce and services for travelers.

By the mid-1920s the busiest commercial area of downtown shifted from the Columbia, Berry, and Main Street areas to the Wayne, Washington, and Jefferson Street regions. Nearly all retail business and entertainment spots were centered downtown. Buildings such as the Embassy Theater, Scottish Rite Auditorium, and the Chamber of Commerce reflect the eclectic spirit of the 1920s.

Construction began for the Lincoln Tower in October 1929, shortly before the stock market crash and onset of the Great Depression. During the 1930s downtown remained the center of commerce. Development peaked in the 1940s, with hundreds of businesses from small shops to large department stores thriving in the central business district, centered on Calhoun Street.

Major changes to urban development following World War Two were driven by the shift to personal cars for transportation. The increased use of automobiles was not compatible with the previous development of downtown, resulting in traffic congestion and the need for additional parking areas. Shopping centers such as Quimby Village, Rudisill Center, and South Anthony Plaza appeared in the 1950s and began to shift retail patterns away from downtown. In 1955 Southgate Shopping Center opened with more than 2000 free parking spaces and easy access to suburban neighborhoods. The elevation of the Nickel Plate Railroad tracks running through downtown encouraged suburban expansion to the north. The dedication of the Memorial Coliseum in 1952, Northcrest Shopping Center in 1958, and Skyline Plaza on Goshen Road in 1959, made it clear that downtown Fort Wayne's newest competitors were the suburbs.

As business moved to the suburbs, common urban renewal ideas took over: vacant buildings were demolished to create parking lots or spaces for large municipal projects such as the City-County Building/Rousseau Center (1969), Performing Arts Center/Arts United Center (1973), Freimann Square (1971), and Grand Wayne Center (1985/2006). Simultaneously, important historic landmarks such as The Landing, Embassy Theatre, Canal House, and other buildings became designated and preserved through a combination of community efforts, private investment, government incentives, and assistance from the Fort Wayne Historic Preservation Commission.

The Flood of 1982 reminded city leaders that the rivers cannot be ignored and led to renewed interest in both controlling and beautifying the rivers. Headwaters Park, largely completed by 1999, redeveloped frequently flooded land into an adaptable community park that accommodates flooding with little damage. In 2007, the City adopted a Comprehensive Plan to further enhance downtown riverfronts, gateways, historic and arts districts, commercial and residential amenities – resulting in a series of projects that continue to connect citizens to the city's core.



Historic Downtown Fort Wayne

Many featured buildings are open to the public during regular business hours.
View properties not open to the public from the street or sidewalk.

Introduction

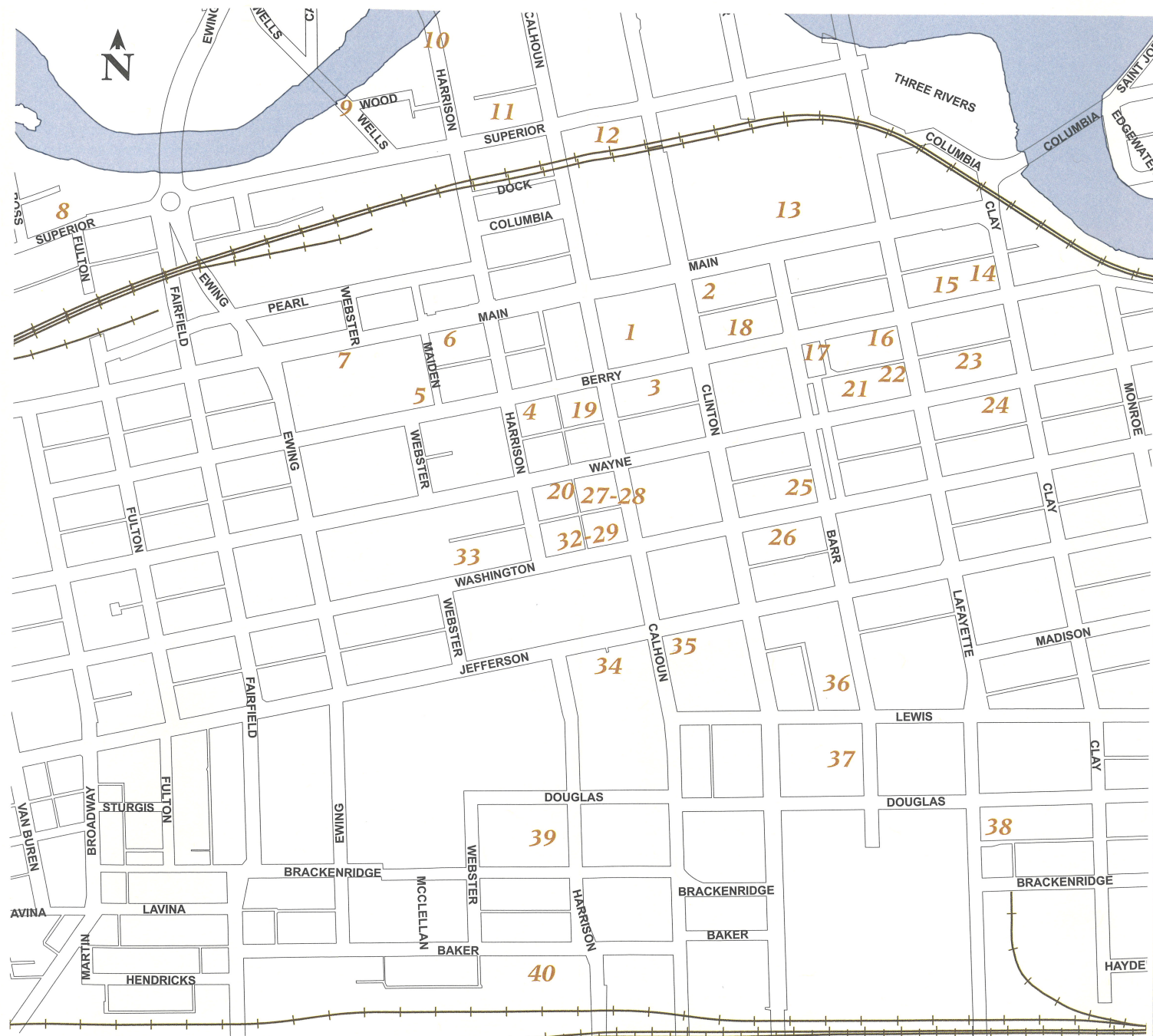
Historic landmarks come in all shapes and sizes and can be anything from a large courthouse to a tiny diner. They are places that have importance to us as individuals or as a community — perhaps representing important people, places or events — and marking our passage through time. They are familiar sites that give our community a distinctive character. Historic landmarks may be recognized and protected in a variety of ways.

National Historic Landmarks (NHL) are historic places that possess exceptional value in commemorating or illustrating the history of the United States. The National Park Service's National Historic Landmarks Program oversees the designation of such sites. All NHLs are also listed in the National Register of Historic Places.

The **National Register of Historic Places (NR)** is the nation's official list of properties considered worthy of preservation. Listing on the National Register gives properties a degree of protection from any potentially adverse effects of state and federally funded projects, and may also provide financial incentives for appropriate rehabilitation. Properties may have local, state, or national significance.

Local Historic District (LHD) designation is a tool, made possible by a local ordinance, that owners may use to ensure preservation of their property. Upon designation, elements of the property that are subject to public view are protected from inappropriate changes by a design review process which is required before building permits can be issued or exterior work begins. The historic district guidelines assure that the property's distinctive qualities will be retained.

For more information about Historic Districts please call the Division of Community Development at (260) 427-8311 or visit www.fwcommunitydevelopment.org/preservation.



Featured structures:

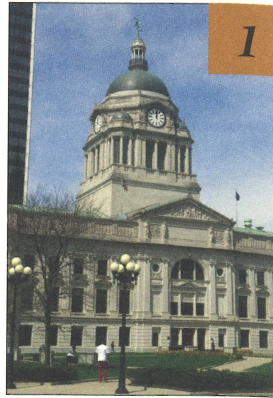
Allen County Courthouse

Brentwood Tolan, architect;
NR 1976, NHL 2003

715 S. Calhoun St.

Beaux Arts, 1897-1902

Nationally recognized for its architectural and artistic quality, a quote from the 1902 dedication is even more true today: "Faultless in construction, flawless in its imposing grandeur, its massiveness overcome by the perfection of artistic detail, the court house of Allen County stands without an equal among all the costly and glorious architectural monuments of the richest communities of the world." The close collaboration between the local architect, artists, and craftsman is obvious throughout the building.



1

Journal Gazette Building

Charles Weatherhogg, architect;
NR 1982

701 S. Clinton St.

Craftsman, 1871/1928

The Journal-Gazette newspaper was started in 1899 with the merger of The Gazette and The Journal, both of which date back to the 1860s. The newspaper moved into the south end of the Bass Building in 1908, and in 1927, purchased and extensively remodeled the building to create a state of the art newspaper facility. Strong bands of large windows and contrasting limestone give the building a horizontal emphasis. The decorative copper panels above the first floor windows are a unique feature.



2

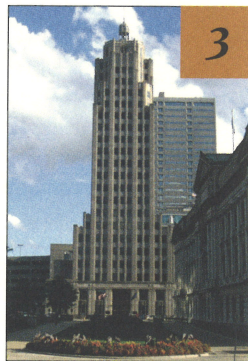
Lincoln Bank Tower

A.M. Strauss and Walker & Weeks, architects

116 E Berry St.

Art Deco, 1930

Constructed at the beginning of the Great Depression and the tallest building in Indiana until 1962, this streamlined tower has long been a major landmark in downtown Fort Wayne. One of the finest examples of Art Deco architecture in the State, the Lincoln Tower features terra cotta designs in cobalt blue and gold at the top, and bronze panels depicting the life of Abraham Lincoln at the main entry. The 2-story bank lobby has stylized bronze designs of plants, animals and people; murals by Glenn M. Shaw that depict elements of nature and zodiac symbols; and sculptural figures of the four seasons.



3

First National Bank

Thomas James & Co.,
Boston, architect

127 W. Berry St.

Neoclassical- Beaux Arts, 1923

This 12-story building was the largest bank and office building in northern Indiana when originally constructed. The huge limestone pilasters and engaged columns at the base of this building give it a temple-like appearance. Fluted columns are repeated at the top of the building which is capped by a cornice of glazed terra cotta. The elaborate carved bands which decorate the smooth stonework include images of once common Indian Head nickels and Mercury dimes. Murals of canal scenes decorate the original bank lobby.



4

Noah's Ark/Cindy's Diner

Valentine Manufacturing Co., Inc.
LHD 1991

230 W. Berry St.

Modern, 1954

Valentine Manufacturing was incorporated in 1947 in Wichita, Kansas. The prefabricated metal buildings they constructed were designed as eight-to-ten-seat diners that one or two people could easily operate. Made to be portable, they could be lifted off their foundation and easily moved to a new location. This diner has undergone four moves and five name changes since original owner, Noah Clauss, opened the diner at the NW corner of Clinton and Jefferson.



5

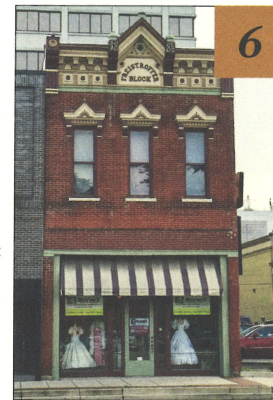
Freistroffer Block

LHD 1986

207 W. Main St.

Queen Anne, 1884

Although small in size and simple in form, a glance upward reveals beautiful details. Rising sun designs are found on each second floor window hood. The elaborate metal cornice topping the building features: brackets of varying sizes; pointed arches with palmette motifs; and a small gable with the name and year of the building. The horseshoe in the peak of the gable gives a clue as to the building's original use as a blacksmith shop.



6

William S. Edsall House

NR 1976

305 W. Main St.

Greek Revival/ Italianate/ I-House, 1839/c.1874

William Edsall came to Fort Wayne in 1824, and surveyed for the Wabash & Erie Canal. He also served on the City's first Common Council in 1840; was registrar of the US Land Office; and served as Allen County Clerk from 1870-74. His numerous business interests included contracting work for the canal, plank road, and railroad. The oldest structure in downtown, this building is a classic I-House: two stories tall and one room deep, with a symmetrical façade. The eaves with their elaborate brackets are part of an 1870s remodeling.



7

Hugh McCulloch House

Henry Williams, architect;

NR 1980, LHD 1980

616 W. Superior St.

Greek Revival 1843 / c.1895

When Hugh McCulloch, one of the most prominent financiers and bankers of his time, constructed his home, it was the center of a 100 acre estate. The house had a 2-story central section with a portico of square columns, flanked by 1-story wings. In 1863 McCulloch joined President Lincoln's cabinet as Secretary of the Treasury, a position he continued in under Andrew Johnson and later under Chester Arthur. Sold in 1887, the house was enlarged to its present form by both the Fort Wayne College of Medicine and the Turners Club.



8

Wells Street Bridge

Alvin John Stewart, builder;

NR 1988

Wells St. at St. Marys River

Whipple through truss, 1884

This truss type was commonly used in bridge construction and most examples tend to be fairly simple and direct in their design. However, the design of this bridge is enriched by the quatrefoil motif brackets along its length, and a band of delicate cresting at each end. Above each entry are panels set in decorative ironwork that list the names of county officials and the bridge fabricator. The flanking walkways with their lattice balustrades illustrate the early importance of both pedestrian and vehicular traffic. With construction of the Ewing Street bridge in 1982, the Wells Street Bridge was closed to autos. This is the only iron bridge that remains in the city.



9

Lincoln Highway Bridge
A.W. Grosvenor, designer; NR 2010
Harrison St. at St. Marys River
Melan truss reinforced concrete, 1915

Linking New York City to San Francisco, the Lincoln Highway was the first coast-to-coast transcontinental highway. Originally supported on a series of arches, this bridge was completely reconstructed in 1987; however, important elements of the original bridge were retained. The dedication plaque naming the 1915 County officials was reinstalled, as well as a unique plaque that shows the mileage from the bridge east to New York and west to San Francisco. The ornamental railings and lighting are similar to the original.



10

Fort Wayne Engraving Company
Bradley & Babcock, architects
LHD 2000
120 W. Superior St.
Craftsman, 1929

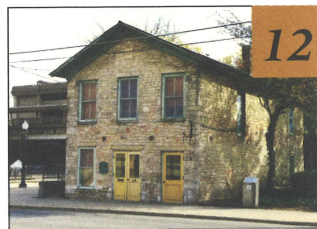
A producer of commercial art and a manufacturer of engravings, Fort Wayne Engraving Co. was a subsidiary of Wayne Paper Box & Printing Corporation which operated in the building immediately to the east. They produced printing plates of all kinds in one or more colors, along with retouching, pen and wash drawings, zinc and copper halftones, and color engravings. One of only two known works of the firm of Bradley & Babcock, the building features decorative brick panels and both golden tan and black terra cotta details. The strong vertical lines of the façade show the influence of the Art Deco style.



11

John Brown Stone Warehouse
NR 1997, LHD 1976
114 E. Superior St.
Gable Front, 1852

The John Brown Stone Warehouse is the earliest surviving commercial building in Fort Wayne; the only building of random stone construction; and the only building in Fort Wayne and Allen County directly associated with the Wabash and Erie Canal. Its builder, John Brown, a stone cutter, mason, and merchant, depended on the canal, which ran behind his building, to import his materials. The goods and services which he offered for sale are showcased in the design and stone construction of the building itself.



12

Arts United Center
Louis Kahn, architect
303 E. Main St.
Modernism, 1973

In 1961, internationally recognized architect Louis Kahn was hired by Arts United to design an arts campus in downtown Fort Wayne.

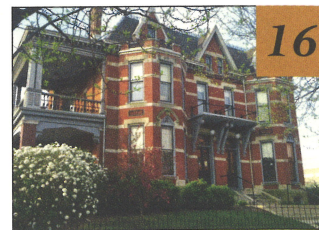


13

McCulloch-Weatherhogg Double House

Thomas Tolan, architect;
NR 2001, LHD 1999
334-336 E. Berry St.

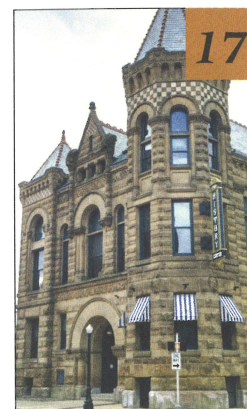
Victorian Gothic Revival, 1881
 After completing his east coast education and a year or two of world travel, John Ross McCulloch followed family tradition and took up a career in banking. He also became a civic leader and an enthusiastic patron of the arts. He resided at 334 E. Berry Street from the 1890s until his death in 1957. Prominent architect Charles Weatherhogg also lived in the duplex from c.1900 until his death in 1937. The only example of its style in Fort Wayne, important features include decorative patterns produced by contrasting bands of limestone in the walls, Gothic arches, trefoils and quatrefoils, and crenellated parapets.



16

The City Building
Wing & Maburin, architects
NR 1973, LHD 1997
302 E. Berry St.

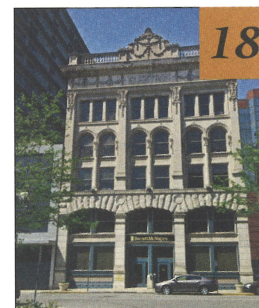
Richardsonian Romanesque, 1893
 Constructed as the first true home for city government, this castle-like building served a variety of city services including a courtroom on the upper floor and a jail in the basement. With its massive stone construction, round arches, and strong tower, the Romanesque style of this building expressed a solid stability appropriate for a government building. The stonework includes checkerboard patterns, elaborate carved letters and foliage around the front entry, as well as winged lions perched on either side of the front dormer.



17

Elektron Building
Wing & Maburin, architects;
LHD 1984
215 E Berry St.

Beaux-Arts/Romanesque, 1895
 Built to house the Jenney Electric Power Company, this building also served as the first home office building for Lincoln National Life Insurance Company from 1912 to 1923. The heavy, rusticated stone arches and large, sturdy columns of the lower floors contrast with the delicate carving of garlands at the top of the building which is crowned by a shaped parapet and open balustrade. Note that the windows are different shapes on each floor.



18

Mordhurst Oriental Drug Store (#19 right)
Wing & Maburin, architects;
LHD 1997
812 S. Calhoun St.



19

Keller Medicine Company Building
LHD 1983
825 S. Barr St.
Italianate, c.1886

Josiah O. Keller developed and manufactured dental equipment and appliances at this facility, which housed printing and box manufacturing on the first floor, an office and sample room on the second, and a machine shop on the third. Patents registered under his name included a dental cabinet and a process for vulcanizing rubber to be used for dentures. Keller was also the subject of several court cases such as being sued by B.F. Goodrich in 1888 and sensational 1903 divorce proceedings asking for \$5,000 alimony and alleging infidelity and accusing him of "being unfaithful to his marriage vows and cruel besides."



21

Alexander T. Rankin House
NR 2004, LHD 1984
818 S. Lafayette St.
Greek Revival, c.1845

Alexander T. Rankin arrived in Fort Wayne with his family in 1837 to serve as the Presbyterian pastor. After his wife died in 1841, Rankin purchased 818 Lafayette Street which adjoined the Presbyterian Church, which was built under his direction. He resigned as minister in 1843, and left the city. Alexander Rankin is the only recorded individual who participated in the organization of both the Ohio and Indiana Antislavery Societies, and his house is the only standing structure in Fort Wayne with known associations to abolition or Underground Railroad activities.



22

Robert Lyle & Dr. Bertha Macbeth House & Office
LHD 2003
419 E. Wayne St.
Craftsman Bungalow, c.1925

The two front doors of this classic bungalow hint at its dual use as home and medical office. In the early twentieth century many physicians conducted business in the home as a convenient way to serve patients and respond to emergencies, while also being near home and family. The Macbeths lived on the west side, and Bertha operated her medical practice on the east side until 1942. Note the unique porch supports which show Japanese design influence.



23

Bostick-Keim House
LHD 2000
426 E. Wayne St.
Queen Anne, 1888

The design of this outstanding home incorporates most of the hallmark



24

This is the only building to be constructed from the original eight-building plan; the only theater designed by Kahn; and the only building of his constructed in the Midwest. A key figure in the development of modern architecture, Kahn was interested in the look and feel of materials, using brick and concrete in ways that emphasize form and texture. He also paid attention to the use of sunlight, preferring to have natural light enter his buildings through interesting windows and openings. His work can also be identified by the creative use of geometric shapes such as squares, circles and triangles.

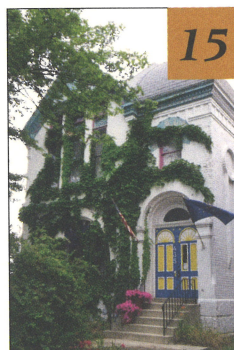
Western Newspaper Union Building / Doubleday Building
LHD 1991
437-441 E. Berry St.
Craftsman/Functional, 1916/1991

Built by local developers Henry Hilgeman and Henry Wehrenberg, this functional, warehouse type building with large windows and simple brickwork was first occupied by the Western Newspaper Union, a wholesale distributor and seller of newspaper supplies. Later tenants included soft drink bottlers and the Doubleday Book Company. Fully rehabilitated in 1991 to provide spaces for various arts organizations, the word OFFICE remains carved over the front door.



J. C. Peltier House
Wing & Mahurin, architects
435 E. Berry St.

Queen Anne/Romanesque, 1886
The prominent architectural firm of Wing & Mahurin was known for their mastery of the Richardsonian Romanesque and Queen Anne styles, often mixing them as in this example. This house has numerous round arches, decorative brick and stone details, and a prominent entrance with double doors. James C. Peltier was a Civil War veteran and a prominent undertaker.



Queen Anne, 1886

The building is significant as a rare, high-style example of Queen Anne commercial architecture with unusual Moorish detailing. It was designed by the firm of Wing & Mahurin, one of the most successful architectural firms in Indiana in the late 19th and early 20th centuries. The exterior has retained its elaborate and unusual metal cornice and arched windows which vary on each floor. The upper floors were originally occupied by physician offices and accessed by both stairs and elevator.



Mommer Building (#19 center)

LHD 1984
814 S. Calhoun St.
Italianate, 1884

While 3-story Italianate commercial buildings were once very common in downtown Fort Wayne, the builders varied the detailing to create distinctive storefronts. The windows on the upper floors of this building are connected by stone bands and topped by beautifully carved lintels. The façade is capped by a deep, elaborate cornice flanked by huge brackets, and a carved stone block with the name and date of the building.

Commercial Building (#19 left)

LHD 1995
816 S. Calhoun St.
Italianate, c.1870

Common design characteristics of late 1800s commercial buildings consisted of: first floor storefronts with a recessed entry flanked by large display windows set above a low knee wall; a long sign board above the storefront; tall, rectangular or arched windows on the upper floors; and a projecting cornice at the top of the building. Following the removal of later additions, these characteristics were used to help restore the original character of this building in 1995.

Louis Mohr Block
Frank B. Kendrick, architect; NR 1988
119 W. Wayne St.
Richardsonian Romanesque
1891-1926

Original owner Louis Mohr sold sewing machines and bicycles at this location until 1902. A women's clothing store, "The Vogue," added to the rear of the building in 1926 and occupied it until about 1970. The cut limestone façade features tall second floor windows separated by clusters of slender columns and topped by round arches. A beautifully detailed cornice and open balustrade cap the building.



features of the Queen Anne style: an asymmetrical façade and plan; a complex, steeply pitched hipped roof with cross gables; a variety of windows; decorative trim; and an elaborate, wrap-around porch. John Bostick was a prominent merchant tailor who, after retiring from retailing, became successful in real estate. His wife, Louisa, sold the house to William and Caroline Keim in 1923, and it continued in the ownership of the Keim family until 1995.



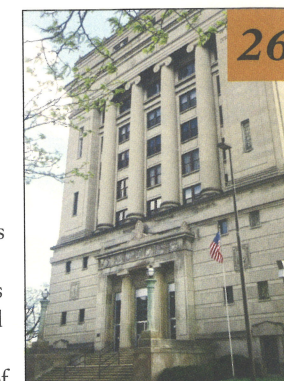
News-Sentinel Building
928-930 S. Barr St.
Georgian Colonial Revival
1925

The Fort Wayne News-Sentinel newspaper is the result of a 1918 merger of the Fort Wayne Daily News and The Sentinel. Oscar Foellinger became the publisher in 1920 and built this building for its offices. The building has fine brickwork accented by stone details. Both the primary entrance and a secondary entrance on Washington Blvd. have Colonial porticoes. Oscar Foellinger died unexpectedly in 1936, and his 25-year-old daughter Helene became the youngest newspaper publisher in the United States. Helene remained publisher until her death in 1987. Known as the Foellinger Center since 1958, the building houses numerous not-for-profit organizations.



Masonic Temple
Charles Weatherhogg, architect;
NR 1988, LHD 1989
206 E. Washington Blvd.
Neoclassical, 1926

Monumental in scale, this building is divided into three sections by wide entablatures: the base has horizontal bands of stonework; the middle section has four huge Ionic columns; and the attic level has paired windows and an entablature topped by antefixes. Reached by a broad flight of steps, the main entry has the appearance of a small temple with fluted Doric columns. Flanking the entrance are square tablets with the Masonic compass symbol, and above the Ionic columns on the upper floors are four round medallions with the symbol for each of the lodges originally housed in the building.



Kresge-Groth Building*Harold Holmes, architect
NR 1988, LHD 1989***914 S. Calhoun St.****Spanish Colonial Revival, 1926**

Built by the S.S. Kresge Company to house its downtown dime store, this building is one of the largest commercial examples of the Spanish Colonial Revival style to be found in Fort Wayne. The main façade has brick laid in a decorative pattern, numerous round arches, carved stone details, and a green tile roof. Decorative brick panels and four gargoyles further enrich the building.

**27****App's Shoe Store***LHD 1983***916 S. Calhoun St.****Italianate, c.1885**

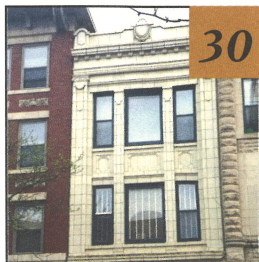
Mathias App built this building as a shoe store that continued to be run by his sons until c.1940. Large, decorative hoods of two different designs top the upper floor windows. The crowning cornice has a paneled frieze, large brackets with smaller modillions between them, and decorative lion faces gracing the top ends. All decorative work is made of metal, a common technique at the time.

**28****Schmitz Block***Frank B. Kendrick, architect;
NR 1988, LHD 1989***926-930 S. Calhoun St.****Richardsonian****Romanesque, 1888**

Dr. Charles Schmitz, one of the city's first physicians, purchased this property in 1839. Following his death, his wife Henrietta had this building constructed as a memorial to her husband. Clad entirely in cut limestone, the Schmitz block is the largest commercial building of its style in Fort Wayne. Vertical piers of rusticated stone contrast with smooth stone around the windows, and the building is enhanced by a wealth of carved details, including circular and leaf-like designs, and a variety of faces and figures that gaze down from the cornice.

**29****Blackstone Building***Charles Weatherbogg, architect;
NR 1988, LHD 1989***112 W. Washington Blvd.****Neoclassical, 1927**

The Blackstone Building is the only commercial structure in downtown Fort Wayne to have an upper facade clad entirely in glazed terra cotta. William H. Noll

**30****Engine House No. 3***Wing & Maburin, architects;
NR 1979, LHD 1977***226 W. Washington Blvd.****Romanesque Revival,
1893/1907**

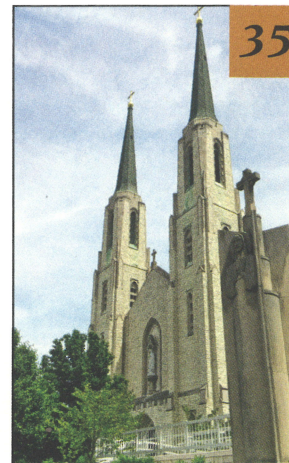
In 1893, the east half of this building was constructed as the first major expansion of the Fort Wayne Fire Department. Within the next six years, five more Engine Houses were constructed as the city rapidly expanded. In 1907, the west half of the building was added, more than doubling the size of the building. While brickwork and details are consistent on the two sides, there are slight differences in the roof lines, the second floor windows, and the openings of the first floor engine bays.

**33****Embassy Theater/Indiana Hotel***A.M. Strauss & John Ebersson, architects;
NR 1975, LHD 1975***121 W. Jefferson Blvd.****Spanish Eclectic, 1928**

Built as a movie palace and vaudeville house, complete with a Page theatre pipe organ, the Embassy provides a majestic backdrop for entertainment and special events. The theatre came complete with the seven-story, 250-room Indiana Hotel wrapped around the north and west sides. Patterned brickwork and elaborate cream-colored terra cotta decoration hint at the 1920s opulence inside. Fantasy-like with marble, mosaic tile, mirrors, plasterwork, and original light fixtures, the interior has been fully restored and the stage expanded to host large-scale touring companies. Originally called the Emboyd in honor of owner Clyde Quimby's mother, Emma Boyd. The name changed when the building was purchased by Alliance Amusement Company in 1952.

**34****Cathedral of the
Immaculate Conception***Thomas Lau & A.M. Strauss, architects;
NR 1980***1117 S. Calhoun St.****Gothic Revival, 1860/1950**

The oldest church building in the city, the Cathedral was designed by Reverend Julian Benoit and architect Thomas Lau. Originally constructed of red brick with sandstone trim, the building was faced with Indiana limestone and Wisconsin lannon stone in 1949-50 and the French Gothic details were simplified and streamlined to coordinate with the MacDougal Chapel and Chancery which

**35****William Moellering & Sons****Building***LHD 1999***1301-09 S. Lafayette St.****Neoclassical, 1889**

Moellering was a significant builder in Fort Wayne, a brick manufacturer, and a dealer in stone and other building materials. The quality of his construction is easily seen in this building which features decorative brick and stone work, including elaborately carved stone panels and a winged gargoyle that gazes over the intersection from the top floor. Both smooth and rusticated stone highlight the storefronts which also retain their decorative cast iron piers. This building was built for use by another family enterprise, the William Moellering & Sons Wholesale and Retail Grocery firm.

**38****U.S. Post Office
and Courthouse****/Federal****Building***Guy Maburin
& Morris &**O'Conner;**architects;**NR 2006***1300 S.****Harrison St.****Starved Classical/Art Deco, 1932**

The predominant federal architectural style of its time, Starved Classicism takes inspiration from the general characteristics and massing of classical architecture but eliminates decorative ornamentation or streamlines it in an Art Deco fashion. The smooth, sharp, rectangular forms of this building give an appearance of strength and solidity. Highly stylized, carvings on the entries and columns add interest. While the Post Office vacated its space in 1987, the building has been used exclusively for federal government operations since its completion in 1932.

**39****Pennsylvania
Railroad Station***Price &
McLanahan,**architects;**NR 1998**LHD 1990***221 W. Baker St.****Craftsman, 1914**

Also known as

Baker Street

Station, this

**40**

erected this building to house Blackstone Shop, an exclusive women's clothing store owned by his wife, Laura Green Noll. Mrs. Noll's business occupied the building until 1937. It was succeeded by a men's clothing store, "Harold Hughes," in 1941, and later by "Nobbson's," another women's clothier, in 1951. Nobbson's used this building, along with the first floor of the adjacent Schmitz Block, until it moved to a suburban mall in 1979.

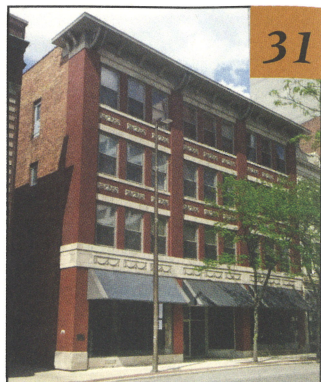


Fort Wayne Printing Building

Ralph B. Snyder, architect;
NR 1988, LHD 1989

114 W. Washington Blvd.
Neoclassical/Chicago School,
1911

The only known work of local architect Ralph B. Snyder, the Fort Wayne Printing Building is significant as an industrial example of the Neoclassical style. The building's red pressed brick facade is trimmed in white terra cotta, which is used for the window sills and lintels, as well as the decorative panels of festoon motifs that adorn the spandrels. A bracketed cornice extends across the top of the facade. The Fort Wayne Printing Company, was quartered here until it outgrew the structure in 1927. During World War II, the building was used as a recreation hall, the Fort Wayne Servicemen's Club.



Knights of Pythias Hall

LHD 1985

120-122 W. Washington Blvd.
Renaissance Revival, 1905

Founded in Washington D.C. on February 19, 1864, The Knights of Pythias is the first fraternal organization to receive a charter under an act of the United States Congress. Friendship, charity and benevolence are the key principles of the order. The rusticated stone on the first floor; quoins at edges of the upper brick walls; small, round attic vents; copper cornice with large brackets; and paneled parapet at the roofline are all characteristics of the Renaissance Revival style which is rare in Fort Wayne.



were being built at that time. Notable interior features include the German stained glass windows and hand-carved stations of the cross installed in 1896.

St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church

Wing & Maburin, architects;
NR 1982

1126 S. Barr St.
Gothic Revival, 1889/1905

With its tall proportions, numerous steep peaks and spires topped by finials, and pointed Gothic arches in a variety of shapes and sizes, this church is the epitome of the Gothic Revival style. The red brick, buff stone, and dark grey slate contribute to the drama of the design. The site of this church has been owned by the St. Paul's Lutheran congregation since 1839. Destroyed by fire in 1903, the church was completely rebuilt in 1905.



Central High School

Charles Weatherbogg, architect

1218 S. Barr St.
Beaux Arts, 1903

When this building opened in 1903 as Fort Wayne High School, it was the only high school in the city. "Central" was added to its name when South Side high school opened in 1922. It is the oldest school building in Fort Wayne, and it remains in use for education as the Anthis Career Center. Much like the Allen County Courthouse, the building is limestone with a variety of classical architectural details. A large addition on the west side of the building, designed by Pohlmeier & Pohlmeier of Fort Wayne, was built in 1938 in the more streamlined Neoclassical style.



building served as the main hub of rail travel in Fort Wayne until it was abandoned in 1990. Clad in semi-glazed buff brick, the station is a two-story Arts and Crafts design with a tall, barrel vaulted central concourse flanked by lower wings. In 1996 the building was acquired and rehabilitated by Martin Riley Architects who restored the barrel vaulted main concourse and converted the side wings to office space.

Below: vintage downtown Fort Wayne postcard, c.1903

